

GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.
2013 ANNUAL REPORT



German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc. (GSRNE) is an all volunteer, 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to providing veterinary care, evaluation and adoptive homes for the countless numbers of German Shepherd Dogs who are left in pounds to await an uncertain fate, are owner surrenders (divorce, death, etc.), or are from abuse or neglect situations. We help provide a safe harbor for German Shepherds that might otherwise be destroyed.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc. (GSRNE) Board is in regular contact to discuss planned events, adoptions, dog evaluations, and the many functions that come together to find the right home for each of our dogs.

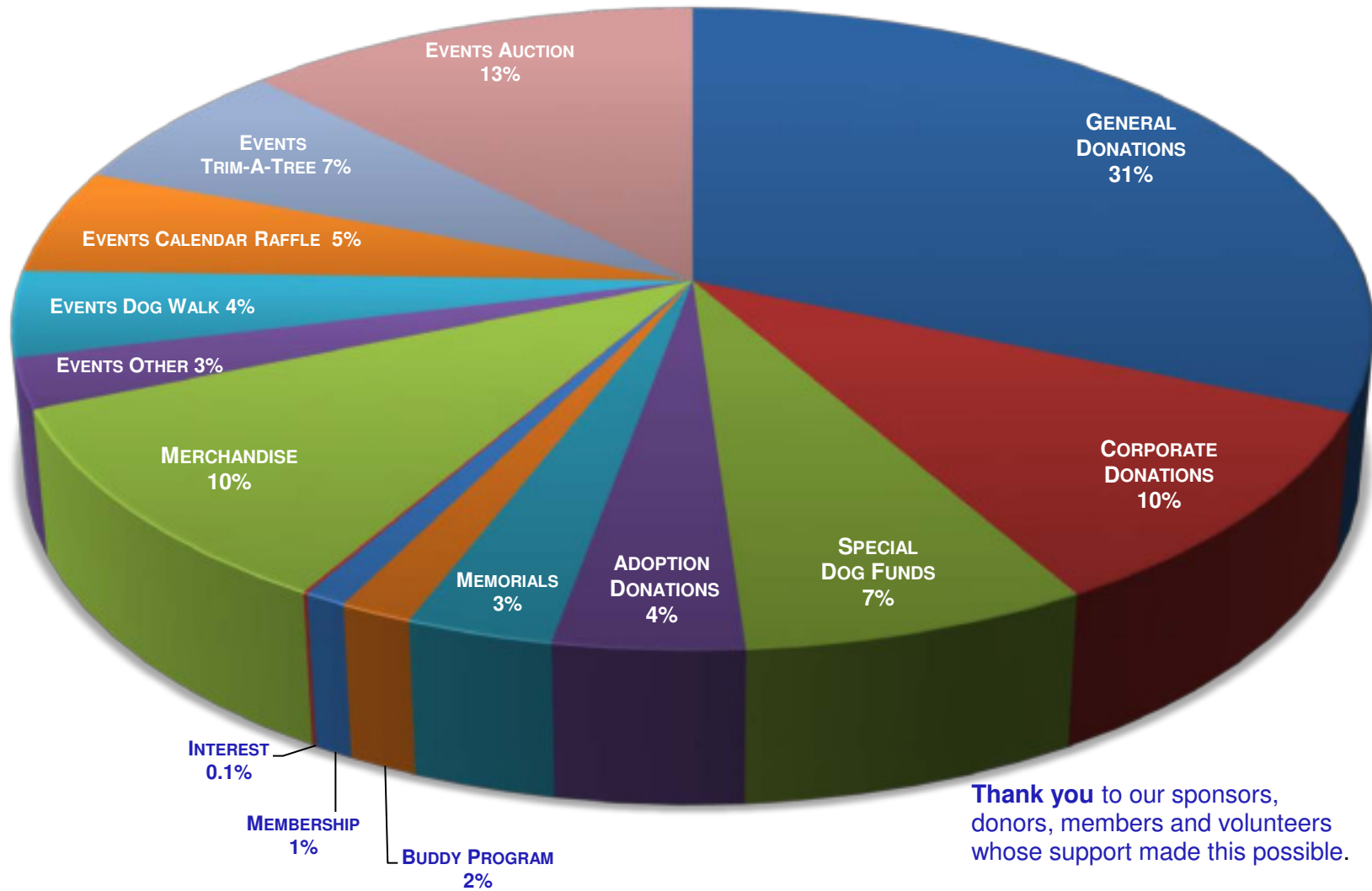
During the Annual Meeting, the Board reviews all aspects of GSRNE.

- **Evaluations:** It all begins with a dog in need. They come in all ages, sizes, and colors. They come from Animal Control Officers and Shelters and owner surrenders. Each requires an evaluation and then a Board review to determine if we will be able to help the dog. Then there is transportation, micro-chipping, medical evaluations and in some cases medical care for illness or injury, grooming, dog supplies, food and sometimes boarding when there are no foster homes available. Some also need basic obedience support. Each dog also receives a photo shoot for posting on the GSRNE Available Dogs page.
- **Fostering:** Foster homes are our most critical need. Without available foster homes, we have to turn dogs away or board them in kennels, which is never an ideal situation for a dog in need. We review foster home available, new foster home applications, foster home visits, and the average length of time a dog is in a foster home.
- **Adoption:** Finding the right match between owner and GSD is a responsibility that we take very seriously. We discuss the number of Applications received, home visits, Applications approved, Adoptions completed and post-adoption follow-up.
- **Fundraising:** 58% of our 2013 income came from our generous sponsors, donors, members and volunteers. The remaining 42% came from our events. The GSRNE Event Teams work all year round at events in most of the New England states to spread the GSRNE message. For the first time in the history of GSRNE that anyone can recall, there was a little money left over as we entered 2014. Those dollars will be used toward 2014 expenses.
- **Education:** Our fantastic Events Team also provides educational material at events. This is in addition to the information we provide on our website.

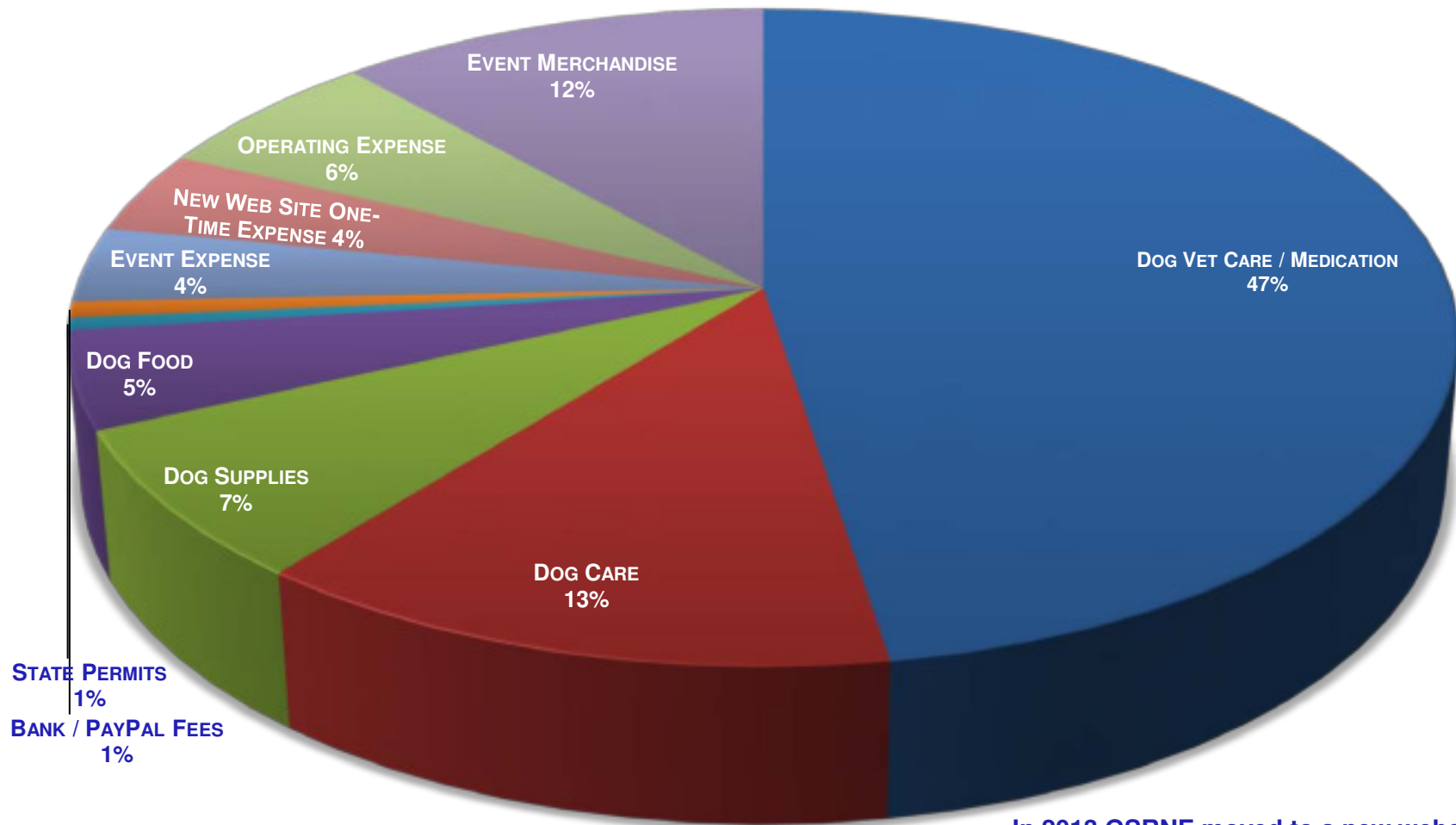
It is not possible for us to bring into GSRNE every German Shepherd who needs help, but we do work with a variety of ages and medical conditions. Our policy is unchanged and that is to provide a safe haven to the dogs most in need. Sometimes it is an older dog like Diamond who lost her owner when she was 12. Sometimes it is a dog that needs medical care like our hero Nitro who had cancer after serving as an explosives dog in Iraq and Afghanistan. Not all dogs are easy to place in new homes, others find there forever homes quickly.

In 2013 we found homes for 25 GSDs who needed us. Although we are proud of that number, our mission is not about how many dogs we can rehome in a year. It is about helping the dogs that need us most. Your participation and support is crucial to that mission!

2013 GSRNE INCOME
\$104,750



2013 GSRNE EXPENSE
\$100,580



In 2013 GSRNE moved to a new website. This move was necessary to improve functionality and security.

ADOPTION

It is always interesting for us to look over the statistics for a full year and realize how many volunteers worked together to help the dogs get adopted.

Hotline Volunteers

Starting with the Hotline Volunteers taking calls from potential adopters, we have 7 people, each taking the calls one day per week. They listened to a total 1,035 calls in 2013 and sent out 364 Adoption Applications to people who qualified. Of those applications, 130 were completed and returned to the Adoption Coordinator. Each applicant received a phone call to follow up, and some had decided to hold off on adopting; but there were 54 applicants who did have home visits.

Home Visits

We have volunteers in all the New England states who do adoption home visits, and we try to limit their travel distance to an hour of driving time each way. There were 32 volunteers who did those home visits, and some did 3 or 4 visits in the course of the year.

Dogs Adopted

There were 25 dogs adopted in 2013, 15 were males and 10 were females; and some went to approved adopters from 2012. We try to match each dog to the home where he/she will have the best chance of fitting in and getting the leadership and training needed, so we can't guarantee that each approved adopter will be matched with a dog within a specific time frame. The more variables we have to take into consideration (other dog or dogs in the family, cat or multiple cats, applicant wants a certain color or age or gender), the longer it can take to have the right dog for them. Some dogs require an experienced GSD person who knows how to be an above-average leader, and those dogs often have to wait for the best adopter to appear. Some dogs stay with us for a year or more before the right person comes along, and it wouldn't be possible to support dogs for this long (and longer) if we didn't have active volunteers doing events and fundraising in addition to the memorials and donations people send in.

DOGS ADOPTED IN 2013

246 XAGO



XAGO was a 3 year old male when he first came to GSRNE after being given up to a shelter because his owners were going through a divorce and were not able to care for him. The shelter did not want to put him up for adoption to the general public as he had some issues and they felt he needed to go to a GSD savvy person who could work with him.

299 DANIKA



DANIKA was age 4 when we first met her. This beautiful girl had been with her original owners from the time she was a young puppy. However, the family's situation changed and they were no longer able to keep their beloved GSD.

361 TYSON



TYSON was just 9 months old when he was turned over to GSRNE. This handsome boy needed a lot of help. He had no leash manners, no training, was very mouthy and did not like to be touched.

364 MANNY



MANNY was 7 when we met him. He came to us from a shelter after his owner lost his home. We were told the owner had adopted him from that same shelter five years earlier when his first owner surrendered him due to an increase in his home owner's policy for having a GSD.

365 ZEUS



ZEUS was a just a 10 month old, super sweet, friendly boy when he came to GSRNE. His owner surrendered him to a shelter and the shelter contacted us to help. He had so much to learn – how to walk on a leash, how not to jump and counter surf, and all the basic commands.

366 WEST



WEST, a 5 year old male, had the typical rescue story. He was abandoned and starving when he was picked up by animal control and placed in a shelter. He was suffering from malnutrition, flea dermatitis, hair loss and very painful ear infections. He also suffered acute bloat shortly after arriving at the shelter. The shelter saved him and then called us. They knew he needed special help to heal. All of that adversity did not change his kind and friendly disposition.

367 TOUSER



TOUSER was five when we met him. This handsome, well-mannered boy was surrendered to a shelter after his family felt too overwhelmed to care for him along with their young children. Realizing what a wonderful dog Touser was, the shelter called GSRNE for help. Touser has been diagnosed with Pannus, a lifelong eye condition that is managed with eye drops.

368 ADDIE



ADDIE was only four months old when her owner gave her up to a shelter. The shelter called us because they knew Addie needed the kind of training and attention she would get from GSRNE to help her learn basic obedience and to overcome her shyness. She is a smart girl who loves to play and enjoys discovering all that life offers.

369 MADDIE (MADISON)



MADDIE came to GSRNE when she was just 16 months old. She is super sweet and friendly girl who promotes adoption wherever she goes. Maddie even has her very own business card.

370 GEMMA



GEMMA was 2-years old when we met her. She was a stray and when she was found and turned over to a shelter, she was very underweight (only 40 pounds). She had also recently given birth to a litter. The shelter contacted GSRNE to help this sweet girl.

She is now the source of much happiness to her forever family.

371 HALEY



HALEY is an active young female, age 5 ½ who lived with her owner from the time she was just 8 weeks old. They went through some difficult times together, and then her owner lost her home and had to move in with relatives. Sadly, Haley was not welcome there. Her owner contacted GSRNE and was relieved to learn that we would be able to place her in a foster home and help her find a new forever home.

373 DIXIE



DIXIE was only 11-12 weeks old when this sweet and friendly girl came to us. In that short time, she had already been in two other homes. She is a pretty girl but has a shorter tail as something happened to her before we got her. Possibly the mother chewed off part of her tail thinking it was the umbilical cord. She also had hookworms and a hernia which needed treatment.

372 KELSA



Kelsa was very ill.



Kelsa peeks through the tulips with her ball.

KELSA was a 5 month old female puppy and very, very ill when GSRNE was called to help. Kelsa had been brought to Tufts and was very sick with Parvovirus. She was going to be euthanized within the next five minutes if they couldn't find someone to take responsibility for her care. The owners had purchased the puppy just a few days before she got sick. They brought her to Tufts but couldn't afford the treatment. One of our members brought this emergency situation to the Board and GSRNE immediately responded that we would take the puppy and provide for her care.

When a puppy has Parvo, there is a chance of death from dehydration, secondary bacterial infection, and blood loss from intestinal hemorrhage.

Today beautiful Kelsa is a happy, healthy, confident girl.

374 RICCA



RICCA is a beautiful, large, sable, male GSD. He came into GSRNE's program as a stray when he was 1 1/2 -2 years old. He was still very much a puppy and needed continued training and exercise to help with his typical GSD puppy antics. His forever family tells us that he is now "a cool dude".

375 LOGAN



LOGAN was a 1 year old when he arrived at GSRNE. He came into our program from a shelter that requested our help. He was given up to the shelter by someone who doesn't know the breed and did not know how to care for a young, very active and confused pup.

376 NITRO



NITRO was a large, handsome, sable male. He came to GSRNE at age 10. Nitro was a retired bomb-sniffing dog that served in Iraq and Afghanistan. This brave boy did three tours in all. When he was ready for retirement, GSRNE was contacted and asked to find him a forever home. There was a large lump on his neck, which was removed during a vet appointment and found to be non-cancerous.

During the surgery, however, a tumor was found on his tonsil; and a biopsy revealed that it was Tonsillar Squamous Cell Carcinoma, common for K9 dogs working in the detection of explosives. Carcinoma of the tonsils is particularly aggressive and our Vet told us he would probably only have about 3 months.



The Board made the decision he would stay with his foster Dad, and K9 brother, Rocky, whose motorcycle club, the New England Vikings, had fallen in love with Nitro. The club members are mostly retired US Veterans that also served our country and were in awe of this magnificent boy. In September Nitro was adopted (an honorary adoption) by the New England Vikings Motorcycle Club.

With great sadness and heavy hearts we said good-bye to our wonderful boy on April 5, 2014, almost one year after his diagnosis.

377 EBONY



EBONY joined the GSRNE family at age 8 along with her older canine brother, Simba2. Their owner was no longer able to care for them. Ebony is a beautiful, black Shepherd who is happy, well-behaved and just wants to be with her person.

378 MAJOR



MAJOR is a gorgeous, large, young (age 1 ½), male GSD. He came into our program from a shelter asking for our help. Major is a very smart, strong, energetic boy.

379 DUKE



DUKE, a 3 ½ year old male, needed a home with strong leadership so he could become the perfect best friend. He is a sweet, loving boy who just needed the right family to bring structure to his life.

380 ALFIE



ALFIE, a 9 year old male, did not have a good life before GSRNE. He lived in a backyard tied to an old van that was used as a dog house. One day he darted to the end of his chain and injured his neck so badly that he became paralyzed from the neck down. Due to the wonderful care provided by the Scituate Animal Hospital in Rhode Island, he soon regained control of his front legs.

The hospital staff knew Alfie needed a loving home where he could continue his recovery so they called GSRNE for help. Fortunately, we had just the right foster home available and Alfie gradually got back a lot of his strength and flexibility. Alfie is now able to trot on the beach, go for walks and get more fun out of life than he ever had before.

381 TIA



TIA is a beautiful, nine-month old, black and tan GSD. She is very sweet and friendly with people. When she came to GSRNE, she had no social skills or obedience training.

382 SIMBA2



SIMBA is a 5 year old bundle of love and energy. He came into our program with his canine sister, Ebony. Their previous owner was no longer able to care of them. Simba had a severe ear infection and a skin condition where he lost his fur on his back, neck, chest and the inside of his legs. Despite his condition, he is a very sweet and loving dog with a great temperament. With proper medical care and grain-free food, Simba's health returned as well as his hair!

383 TONKA



TONKA is a young (age 2), handsome, black and tan long coat. He was a stray and he needed help so the shelter turned to GSRNE Tonka is a very happy dog with a sensitive, loving and playful personality.

Tonka had a skin condition that required antibiotics and special medicated baths once a week.

Tonka is very happy to be adopted by his Foster Family.

384 LADY



LADY is a very sweet, pretty, high energy and playful eight-month-old puppy who came to us from a shelter asking for our help. She came into our program with her sister Lexi who needed surgery on her left, front leg. Both dogs were in need of training and socialization Lexi was adopted in 2014 when her leg healed.

385 KYRA



KYRA, age 6 ½, came to us from a situation that she needed to be removed from quickly so GSRNE was asked to help.

While in her foster home, we found that Kyra had an ulcer on the cornea of one of her eyes that needed to be surgically removed. She fully recovered from her surgery and she only needs to have her eye checked once each year as part of her annual exam.

386 HANK



HANK is a handsome, age 5-1/2, black and tan, male GSD. Hank came into our program as an owner surrender with Chloe. Unfortunately, his owner could no longer keep him or Chloe due to the time both dogs needed and one human in the home had allergies. Chloe was adopted in 2014.

VOLUNTEERS

GSRNE is an “all volunteer” organization. Our talented and devoted volunteers give their time and talents to every aspect of the Rescue to ensure that we can fulfill our mission to help German Shepherd Dogs who are in the most need. In 2013 we had 66 new volunteers join us from throughout New England and beyond.

MA	47
CT	6
ME	5
NH	3
RI	3
VT	1
NY	1

It takes a team of dedicated individuals working together to help each dog receive the care he or she needs on its journey to finding a forever home.

GSRNE volunteers answer hundreds of calls and emails each year. They respond to letters and acknowledge donations. They coordinate memberships and help bring other new volunteers into GSRNE. Experts in finance manage the funds and keep the books. Experts in photography bring out each dog’s unique personality in beautiful photos. A team of volunteers works tirelessly to find foster homes and adoptive homes for our dogs. That includes reviewing applications, interviewing applicants, making visits to each potential foster home or adoptive home. Another team works on planning, organizing, publicizing, setting up and staffing events, our main source of funds. Others specialize in fundraising with sponsors and local businesses. There are teams that work on communications including materials for our members, volunteers, foster homes and adoptive homes, news and educational materials for our website, posts for our Facebook page, and keeping our “tweets” current. We also have a dedicated staff that edits and publishes our monthly e-newsletter, The Shepherd’s Watch. Specially trained volunteers work directly with the GSDs in need - evaluating and transporting each dog that comes into GSRNE, training dogs that need to learn basic manners, micro-chipping them, as well as coordinating and transporting supplies for our foster homes throughout New England. Some of our volunteers also provide caring foster homes for our GSRNE dogs. For GSRNE, the goal is to find every dog the right home for that dog but it doesn’t end there. Our volunteers follow up with each adoptive family to answer questions and to keep up to date on the progress of their GSRNE dog.

GSRNE is very fortunate to have so many volunteers sharing their time and talents to make a difference.

2013 GSRNE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We hope that you find his report informative.

Karen McCall, President

Chris Harriman, Member

Jeannie McMahon, Secretary

2013 GSRNE FINANCE TEAM

Craig Hanson, Treasurer

Liz Arnold, Bookkeeper

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us.

By phone:

Leave a message on our hotline at (978) 443-2202 and indicate that the message is regarding the 2013 Annual Report.

By regular mail:

GSRNE

P.O. Box 299

Wayland, MA 01778

By email:

askgsrne@gsrne.org

Online:

Use our Contact Us form on our website www.gsrne.org. Just select Contact Us from the About Us tab.

We appreciate your interest and your support. Thank you.